



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

***Raised Bill No. 6521***

LCO No. 3661



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

***AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL ORDERS FOR LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1      Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) The Commissioner of Public  
2      Health may, within available appropriations, establish a pilot program  
3      in one or more geographic areas in the state to implement the use of  
4      medical orders for life-sustaining treatment by health care providers.  
5      For purposes of this section: (1) "Medical order for life-sustaining  
6      treatment" means a physician's written medical order to effectuate a  
7      patient's request for life-sustaining treatment; and (2) "health care  
8      provider" means any person, corporation, limited liability company,  
9      facility or institution operated, owned or licensed by this state to  
10     provide health care or professional services, or an officer, employee or  
11     agent thereof acting in the course and scope of his or her employment.

12     (b) The Commissioner of Public Health may establish an advisory  
13     group of health care providers to make recommendations concerning  
14     the pilot program described in this section. The members of such  
15     advisory group may include one or more: (1) Physicians, (2) advanced

16 practice registered nurses, (3) physicians assistants, (4) emergency  
17 medical service providers, (5) patient advocates, (6) hospital  
18 representatives, or (7) long-term care facility representatives.

19 (c) Prior to commencement of a pilot program pursuant to this  
20 section, said commissioner may contact a representative of each health  
21 care institution licensed in accordance with section 19a-490 of the  
22 general statutes, a representative of each emergency medical service  
23 organization, as defined in section 19a-175 of the general statutes, any  
24 physician licensed under chapter 370 of the general statutes, and any  
25 advanced practice registered nurse licensed under chapter 378 of the  
26 general statutes in the geographic area in which the commissioner  
27 intends to establish the pilot program to request such institution's,  
28 organization's, physician's or advanced practice registered nurse's  
29 participation in the pilot program. Participation by each institution,  
30 organization, physician and advanced practice registered nurse shall  
31 be voluntary.

32 (d) Patient participation in the pilot program shall be voluntary.  
33 Any such agreement to participate in the pilot program shall be made  
34 in writing, signed by the patient or the patient's legally-authorized  
35 representative. Such agreement shall be maintained by the health care  
36 institution, emergency medical services organization, physician or  
37 advanced practice registered nurse that presented such agreement to  
38 the patient and shall be made available to the commissioner upon  
39 request.

40 (e) After the termination of the pilot program, said commissioner  
41 may submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a  
42 of the general statutes, to the Governor and the joint standing  
43 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters  
44 relating to public health concerning the pilot program.

45 (f) Said commissioner may implement policies and procedures  
46 necessary to implement the pilot program while in the process of

47 adopting such policies and procedures in regulation form, provided  
48 the commissioner prints notice of the intent to adopt regulations in the  
49 Connecticut Law Journal not later than thirty days after the date of  
50 implementation of such policies and procedures. Policies implemented  
51 pursuant to this section shall be valid until the time final regulations  
52 are adopted or until the pilot program terminates, whichever occurs  
53 earlier.

54 (g) Any pilot program established in accordance with this section  
55 shall terminate not later than October 1, 2014.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

***Statement of Purpose:***

To allow the Commissioner of Public Health to establish a pilot program to implement the use of medical orders for life-sustaining treatment.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*